

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 4, 2026



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this,

he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.. -Matthew 2:1-12

Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:2, 6)

We Gentiles

It is safe to say that any group of U.S. Catholics gathered to worship on this feast is a congregation of Gentiles expressing the faith that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah of Israel and our own Lord and savior. If there is ever a time in the liturgical Year when we should acknowledge our connection with the people of historic Israel and our participation in their faith in a creating and redeeming God, it is on the feast of the Epiphany.

For centuries, we Gentile messianists managed to live comfortably with imagery that pictured the Israelite tradition to be the discarded husk of Christianity, something that could be symbolized in Renaissance paintings as ancient architectural ruins comprising the grey background of the Christian foreground. Fortunately, we now live in a moment of Church history enlightened by the teaching of Vatican II on the matter of our relationship with Judaism. In *Nostra aetate* (The Declaration of the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, 1965), the teaching Church, drawing on the wisdom of the New Testament, spoke fresh words to our contemporary context of religious pluralism. It is an appropriate moment to reflect on some of its words.

Consider, for example, this, from section four, on Judaism: "The Church cannot forget that it received the revelation of the Old Testament by way of that people with whom God in his inexpressible mercy established the ancient covenant. Nor can it forget that it draws nourishment from the good olive tree onto which the wild olive branches of the Gentiles have been grafted (see Rom 11:17-24)." Epiphany is a good time to remember our roots and the covenant never revoked, for as Paul said regarding his fellow Jews, "The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable" (Rom 11:28-29). -Dennis Hamm, SJ

Readings For The Epiphany of the Lord

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6

Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Readings For The Baptism of the Lord

Reading I: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Reading II: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

St. Bernard Rosary Program Report: 11,195!

Rosaries prayed this week =58 Cumulative= 11,195

Please pray the Rosary on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays before the 12:15pm Mass.

FINANCE

1st Collection= \$3,456

Christmas = \$4,003

AMA Goal = \$31,700 Pledges= \$30,073 Gifts= \$29,453

Men's Conference 2026-"Pray Without Ceasing"

24 hours of prayer • Brotherhood • Renewal

1 Thessalonians 5:17-March 20-21, 2026

Cathedral of St. Eugene & Becker Center

Diocese of Santa Rosa <https://bv900.my.canva.site/men-conference>. Step away from the noise for a moment and

rest in God's presence. **Speakers include** Deacon Harold Burke Sivers, Deacon Charlie Echeverry, John Beailieu, Fr. Andreew Ginter along with Most Rev Bishop Robert Vasa and Sr. Mary Victoria.

Questions? Stephen Morris, Director E: dsryouth@srdiocese.org O: (310) 849-2342 \$50 for 2 tickets, \$35 for 1. God bless and see you there.

St. Bernard Parish Volunteer Thank You

At the start of this new year we would like to offer thanks for our precious volunteers who keep the parish clean, beautiful and running smoothly. We couldn't do without your help. Thank you to Jeanne Michaels and Mary Murphy for bulletin folding. Thank you Joe Bonino and Alan Knapp for helping at a moment's notice with the Christmas mailing. Thank you to the flower arrangers and providers, altar servers, sacristans, lectors and eucharistic ministers. Thank you to the individuals who help clean the church. We also thank those choir members, musicians and directors who provide soul-stirring music of great importance to the liturgy. Thank you to the Parish and Finance Council Members who are always available to assist Fr. Bernard with bookkeeping and building and maintenance needs and inquiries. May God bless you.

Children's Mass Appreciation

Many thanks to children, parents and volunteers for their beautiful portrayal of the Christmas Story at the Christmas Eve day (4pm) Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Merry Christmas and God bless you all.

St. Bernard's Phone Prayer Line

For those who are interested in joining the prayer chain or anyone with a prayer request, please call Alan / Illeen at (707) 442-6844. "Prayer is an act of love, words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love." ~ St. Teresa of Avila

Eureka Holy Mass Schedule

First Saturday, January 3

8:30 am First Saturday Mass Sacred Heart Church
3:15 Confession St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Lowell Allen St Joseph Church

Sunday, January 4 The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 am Ints. Janet Tan St. Joseph Church
9:00 am No Intention Sacred Heart Church
10:30am +Paul Windham St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp) No Intention Sacred Heart Church

Monday, January 5

12:15 pm Int John Jr St. Bernard Church

Tuesday, January 6

7:30am Int Janet Tan St. Joseph Church

Wednesday, January 7

12:15 pm Int. John Perrone Sr. St. Bernard Church
6:00 pm Adoration & Confession Sacred Heart Church
7:00 pm Mass No Intention (Sp) Sacred Heart Church

Thursday, January 8

7:30am Int. Janet Tan St. Joseph Church
11:30am Mass No Intention St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Friday, January 9

12:15 pm +Paul Windham St. Bernard Church
1-2 pm Adoration & Confession St. Bernard Church

Saturday, January 10

3:15 Confession St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Dianne Luzzi St Joseph Church

Sunday, January 11

7:30 am +Erling Dellabalma St. Joseph Church
9:00 am No Intention Sacred Heart Church
10:30am +Barbara Masterson & +Brad Masterson St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp) No Intention Sacred Heart Church

Please Pray For: Jo Ann Dellabalma, Ann Marie DeSimone, Bill King, Martin & Martha Fosnaugh, Claudia Vess, Chris Miller, Mary Alpers, Basil, Santos, Bosco, Maria, Mario, Pio, & Mariano Mainus, Nancy Allen, David Russell, Sonny, Garrett Anderson, Dottie Barrett, Harvey & Marianne Bennett, Mildred Perrone, Marian Griffin, Massimo Matteoli, Gary Cormier, and Obdulia Walter

Please Pray For Our Beloved Departed:

Erling Dellabalma, Paul Windham, Nick Giannini, Juvenal (John) Regalo, Evo Fannuchi, Dianne Luzzi, Rose Ann Hurst, Tom Long, Joe Thompson, Colleen Cruz, Gina Costa, Rodrigo Reyna Sanchez, Jerry Bronder, Madalenne Smith, Bruce Amado, Doris Davy, Stella Reyes, Mary Antonelli, Mary Ellen Hadley, Sara & Carmen Scrivner, Camille Regli, Fred Avelar, Delores McBroome, and Gus Cricchio

J Rolphe- Free Ultrasounds, Help and Support

J ROPHE MEDICAL provides no-cost limited obstetrical ultrasounds to patients between 7-16 weeks pregnant in a confidential and professional setting, where each client is treated holistically with the utmost care and respect. All services are free. Open from 10 to 4 Mon--Thurs, Call 707-444-0423 for an appt.

The Pregnancy Care Center offers compassion, direction, and hope to those facing life decisions. All services are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL. 24/7 Option line: 800-712-4357 Open Mon, Tues, Th, Fri 10-3 707-442-2345

*Pregnancy testing *Ongoing support
*Prenatal education *Childbirth education -

Cont...Pregnancy Care Center:

*Maternity and baby clothing * Community referrals
*Equipment and supplies * Parenting education
*Healthy relationships education *Prenatal vitamins

TODAY Christmas Open House at Rectory

Fr. Mike and Fr. John welcome you to a Christmas Open House at the St. Bernard Rectory on Sunday, Jan. 4 from 2-5pm. Please bring cookies ahead of time for this event to the St. Bernard Office. God bless you.

The Funeral for Dr. Paul Windham will be January 10th, 2026 at St. Bernard Church, Rosary @ 9:30am and Mass @10:00am. (R.I.P.)

Walk for Life West Coast – San Francisco

January 24, 2026 The Santa Rosa Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites you to join fellow Catholics and pro-life advocates from across California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast. Transportation Provided: Bus departs at 7:30 a.m. from St. Joseph Catholic Church 150 St. Joseph Way, Cotati Destination: St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco Return bus departs San Francisco at 4:15 p.m. Cost: \$40 per seat (includes light snack and beverage) Students ride free (*Only 10 seats remaining*) Join us for this powerful witness to life and dignity.

Invitation To Monastic Retreat For Young Men

"Come, Lord Jesus, come!" I extend a special invitation to any of our college students (or other young men) who have some free time over Christmas break to make a *Come and See* retreat here at the monastery. Consider a monastic vocation as we rejoice in the birth of the Eternal Word into the family of the chaste St. Joseph and the Virgin Mary. **I am proposing that we begin on Saturday, December 29, 2025, and conclude on Monday, January 8, 2026, but I will readily accommodate your individual college schedules.**

Please contact me as soon as possible if you may be able to attend this vocation retreat, or even if you simply want to spend some quiet time in prayer and healing here at the monastery. I would appreciate it if all of you would pray for this retreat and extend this invitation to other young men who might benefit from attending. -Fr. O'Hara Holy Family Monastery, 764 Centerville Rd, Ferndale, CA 95536, 509-530-8730, HolyFamily4u2.com

ST. VINCENT de PAUL HOLIDAY THANK YOU

SVdP thanks everyone who has continued to support our Outreach efforts in the community. Because of your generosity, 50 families and Seniors enjoyed a Christmas dinner this year. We thank Teresa Evans, Richard Graey, Russ Shaddix, Linda Bareilles, Joanne and Dave Vina and Georgeanne Fulstone-Pucillo for purchasing, assembling and delivering these food bags. Parish support of our Senior Care Home Christmas Project was nothing less than amazing. Blankets, socks, toiletries, activity books and monetary donations far surpassed our expectations and made a huge person-to-person difference for so many. In addition to the folks listed above, thanks to Claire Camozzi, Rosemary Fitzpatrick and Pam McFarland for their help with this effort. Thanks for your prayers, too, and may God continue to bless us all in 2026.